

TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF
FORMER COLORADO GOVERNOR
RICHARD LAMM

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 31, 2021

Ms. DEGETTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and achievements of Colorado's former Governor Richard "Dick" Lamm who passed away on Thursday, July 29, 2021, at the age of 85.

Governor Lamm was born and raised in the Midwest and lived all over the country in his youth, but he found his true home after he came to Colorado in 1962. In the nearly 60 years he lived in the state, he was a visionary leader helping craft the policies that became the bedrock of Colorado's future.

When he moved to Colorado, Dick was a newly-minted lawyer and an accountant. He established a law practice, but his strong desire to serve beckoned him to run for the Colorado House of Representatives. He was elected in 1964 and immediately began making a lasting mark on our state.

Then-Representative Lamm was a fierce advocate for women's reproductive health. In 1973, just three years after the Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision, he passed the nation's first liberalized abortion law, enabling Colorado women to have control over their own health care. The law, still in effect today, has served as a national model for women's reproductive rights.

Concerned about transparency in government, Dick cosponsored and helped pass the Colorado Open Records Act which has since granted countless Coloradans access to their state and local governments' documents and activities on their behalf.

One of Dick's deepest passions was to preserve our precious environment. After he moved to Colorado, he became an avid outdoorsman and advocate for environmental justice and preservation. In 1972, concerned about the potential effects of the 1976 Olympics on Colorado's fragile ecosystem, he led the successful ballot initiative in which Colorado voters refused to fund the games, causing Denver to become the first host city in history to pull out of already-awarded games.

In 1974, Dick ran for governor to further his progressive agenda. During his campaign, he famously walked the entire state to support his platform of limiting growth to protect our environment. He went on to serve at the helm for 12 years, from 1975 to 1987.

In keeping with his strong advocacy for gender and racial equality, he diversified state government. His judicial appointments included the first woman Colorado Supreme Court Justice, Jean Dubofsky, and the first Hispanic Justice, Luis Rovira, who went on to become Chief Justice. In addition, Governor Lamm appointed women and people of color to his cabinet. He also successfully demonstrated how a Democratic governor could work with a Republican legislature to further the interests of the state, including strengthening our state's economy, maintaining a responsible budget, and protecting our citizens when natural disasters struck.

Even after Governor Lamm's final term, he never retired from the arena of public discourse. He held strong and frequently unpopu-

lar opinions, many of which were based on his lifelong concern about the future of our planet. Although his views were not the norm, he relished the public debate and never shied away from engaging in spirited policy discussions with friends and family, colleagues, members of the press, and his fellow Americans. I was privileged to engage in a number of those spirited discussions with him and, while we might not have agreed, I always came away learning something new.

Dick Lamm had a spectacular career in the public arena, but he would argue that his most important treasure was his family. In 1963, he married Dottie Vennard. They forged an important partnership that redefined the role of political spouse. With Dick's unwavering support, Dottie established herself as a strong feminist voice and gave a new definition to the term "first lady." On the way, they parented two children, Heather and Scott. Their family bond is one of the strongest I have ever seen.

Madam Speaker, I offer my deepest personal condolences to Dottie, Heather, Scott, and all of Dick Lamm's family and friends. On a personal note, I was proud to count him as my friend and as a real mentor, modeling courage of conviction and hard work for future generations of political leaders. Dick will be remembered as the formidable figure he was who, in the critical development years of our state, shaped us for who we are today.

CONGRATULATING TOKYO 2020 SILVER MEDALIST JESSICA PARRATTO

HON. CHRIS PAPPAS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 31, 2021

Mr. PAPPAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dover native Jessica Parratto on winning a silver medal in the women's synchronized 10-meter platform diving competition at the 2020 Olympic Games in Tokyo. It was an honor welcoming her home to Dover and seeing firsthand the pride her hometown feels for her.

All the way from her days at the Seacoast Swimming Association to her time at the University of Indiana and, of course, in Tokyo, Jessica's hard work and dedication have inspired so many others. I am deeply impressed by the skill, teamwork, and perseverance that she demonstrated alongside her teammate Delaney Schnell.

Especially after the hardships of the past year, it is uplifting and inspiring for all Granite Staters to see Jessica make history as part of the first American pair to win an Olympic medal in women's synchronized 10-meter platform diving.

On behalf of my constituents across New Hampshire's First Congressional District, I would like to thank Jessica for representing our nation with true athletic excellence on the Olympic stage in Tokyo. We were proud to recently welcome her home to Dover and extend our sincerest congratulations on her historic silver medal-winning performance. I hope she enjoys a well-deserved celebration of her achievements and wish her continued success in all her future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF BISHOP J. DREW SHEARD

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 31, 2021

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Burning Bush International Ministries, a house of worship located in Inkster, Michigan, as they host their Regathering event and to give welcome to Presiding Bishop J. Drew Sheard.

Earlier this year, the Church of God in Christ General Assembly, the legislative body of the denomination, voted Bishop J. Drew Sheard of Detroit, Michigan as the leader of the worldwide organization, the largest Pentecostal denomination in the country. This accomplishment is the culmination of many years of Bishop Sheard's religious vocation in serving the spiritual needs of others.

Born and raised in Detroit, Michigan, Bishop Sheard was called to the ministry at a young age. Over the years he has served in various roles both locally and nationally. His innate leadership called him to fulfill his vision to create more meaningful connections and growth in the church, including the implementation of several youth-based programs and scholarship program. Bishop Sheard currently serves as a member of the Presidium of the Church of God in Christ, Jurisdictional Bishop of the Michigan-North Central Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction, and as the Senior Pastor of Greater Emmanuel Institutional Church of God in Christ in Detroit, Michigan.

Please join me in welcoming Bishop J. Drew Sheard in celebration of this momentous gathering at Burning Bush International Ministries.

INTRODUCTION OF THE NATIONAL CAPITAL PLANNING COMMISSION DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA HOME RULE ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 31, 2021

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce the National Capital Planning Commission District of Columbia Home Rule Act. This bill would remove the authority of the National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC), a federal agency, to review or approve the development of District of Columbia-owned land. This bill would also remove the requirement that the Mayor of the District get NCPC's approval before selling D.C.-owned real estate, and would allow D.C. agencies to transfer jurisdiction over D.C.-owned land among themselves without NCPC's approval.

Under federal law, NCPC has approval authority for the development of D.C.-owned public buildings located in the central area, including the location, height, bulk, number of stories, and size of such buildings. The District is required to consult with NCPC on its buildings outside the central area, but NCPC has only advisory authority in those areas. The central area is defined by the concurrent action of NCPC and the D.C. Council and currently consists of the Downtown and Shaw Urban Renewal Areas.